

I claim:

1. A track arrangement through which a ladder is retained on a deck of a water craft wherein said ladder is aligned in a first location that is substantially vertical to a gate in an enclosure to permit egress of a person
- 5 from a body of water onto the deck and on said ladder being rotated 180° from a first position to a second position that is substantially vertical to said side rail said ladder is moved from said first location to a second location adjacent said gate for storage, said track arrangement being characterized by a rail having a length that extends from a first end that is located on said deck
- 10 adjacent an opening for said gate to a second end that is located on said deck a fixed distance past said opening, said rail having an axial space that extends from said first end to the second end with an axial slot along a top surface of said rail that extends into said axial space from said first end to said second end, said axial slot having a dimension that is smaller than a
- 15 width of said axial space such that first and second lips are defined along said top surface of said rail; a first hinge member having a first pin through which a first strap is connected to a second strap and a second pin through which the second strap is connected to a third strap; a first connector having a first head that is located in said axial space with a first projection that
- 20 extends from said first head through said axial slot, said first strap of said first hinge member being secured to said first projection while said third strap is secured to a first leg of said ladder; a second hinge member having a first pin through which a first strap is connected to a second strap and a second pin through which the second strap is connected to a third strap; and a second
- 25 connector having a second head that is located in said axial space with a second projection that extends from said second head through said axial slot, said first strap of said second hinge member being secured to said second projection while said third strap of said second hinge member is secured to a second leg of said ladder, said first strap of said first and second hinge
- 30 members remaining stationary when said ladder is rotated from said first position to said second position such that said second strap of said first and second hinge members respectively pivot on said first pins therein to align

said second and third straps over said first strap and thereby bring said ladder into vertical alignment in a plane that is adjacent said side rail such that on movement to said second position said ladder is located on said deck behind said enclosure and thereby hidden from view.

5        2. The track arrangement as recited in claim 1 wherein said second strap of said first and second hinge member is further characterized by a first stop to maintain said second strap in a substantial horizontal plane with respect to said first strap when said ladder is in said first position.

10       3. The track arrangement as recited in claim 2 wherein said second strap is further characterized by a button located adjacent said second pin that engages said deck when said ladder is in said first position to assist in maintaining said horizontal position.

15       4. The track arrangement as recited in claim 3 wherein said second strap is further characterized by a second stop that engages said third strap to limit the lateral movement of said ladder with respect to said horizontal position.

20       5. The track arrangement as recited in claim 4 further including retainer means the aid in keeping said first and second straps of said first and second hinge member, second strap and said first and second legs of said ladder in said vertical plane.

25       6. A track arrangement through which a ladder is retained on a deck of a water craft wherein said ladder is aligned in a first location that is substantially vertical to a gate in an enclosure to permit egress of a person from a body of water onto the deck and on said ladder being rotated 180° from a first position to a second position that is substantially vertical to said enclosure to allow said ladder to be moved from said first location to a second location adjacent said gate for storage, said track arrangement being characterized by a rail having a length that extends from a first end located on said deck adjacent an opening for said gate to a second end located on said deck a fixed distance past said opening, said rail having an axial space that extends from said first end to the second end with an axial slot located in a top surface of said rail that extends into said axial space from said first end

to said second end, said axial slot having a dimension that is smaller than a width of said axial space such that first and second lips are defined along said top surface of said rail; a first hinge member having a first pin through which a first strap is connected to a second strap; a first connector having a 5 first head that is located in said axial space and a first projection that extends from said first head through said axial slot, said first strap being secured to said first projection while said second strap is secured to a first leg of said ladder; a second hinge member having a second pin through which a third strap is connected to a fourth strap; and a second connector having a second 10 head that is located in said axial space and a second projection that extends from the second head through said axial slot, said third strap being secured to said second projection while said fourth strap is secured to a second leg of said ladder, said first strap of said first hinge member and said third strap of said second hinge member remaining in a vertical position when said ladder 15 is rotated from said first position to said second position such that said second and fourth straps respectively pivot on said first and second pins to align said second and fourth straps over said first and third straps to bring said ladder into vertical alignment in a plane that is adjacent said enclosure such that on movement of said ladder to said second location said ladder is 20 hidden behind said enclosure.

7. The track arrangement as recited in claim 6 wherein said second strap and said fourth strap are each further characterized by a first stop that respectively engage said first strap and said third strap to maintain said second and fourth straps in a substantial horizontal position with respect to 25 said first strap and said third strap when said ladder is in said first position.

8. The track arrangement as recited in claim 7 wherein said second strap and said fourth strap are further characterized by a button that extends therefrom and engages said deck when said ladder is in said first position to assist in maintaining said horizontal position.

30 9. The track arrangement as recited in claim 8 wherein said first strap and said third strap are each characterized by a second stop that engages

said second strap and said fourth strap to maintain said ladder in said vertical alignment when said ladder is in said second position.

10. The track arrangement as recited in claim 9 wherein said first and second heads on said connectors slide within said axial space when said 5 ladder is moved between said first and second locations on said deck.

11. The track arrangement as recited in claim 10 further including retaining means that holds said second strap against said first strap when said ladder is in said second position.

12. A track arrangement through which a ladder is retained on a deck 10 of a water craft wherein said ladder is aligned in a first location that is substantially vertical to a gate in an enclosure to permit egress of a person from a body of water onto the deck and on said ladder being rotated from a first position to a second position inside of the enclosure to allow said ladder to be moved from said first location to a second location adjacent said gate 15 for storage, said track arrangement being characterized by a rail having a length that extends from a first end located on said deck adjacent an opening for said gate to a second end located on said deck a fixed distance past said opening, said rail having an axial space that extends from said first end to the second end with an axial slot located in a top surface of said rail that extends 20 into said axial space from said first end to said second end, said axial slot having a dimension that is smaller than a width of said axial space such that first and second lips are defined along said top surface of said rail; a first hinge member having a first pin through which a first strap is connected to a second strap; a first connector having a first head that is located in said axial 25 space and a first projection that extends from said first head through said axial slot, said first strap being secured to said first projection while said second strap is secured to a first leg of said ladder; a second hinge member having a second pin through which a third strap is connected to a fourth strap; and a second connector having a second head that is located in said 30 axial space and a second projection that extends from the second head through said axial slot, said third strap being secured to said second projection while said fourth strap is secured to a second leg of said ladder,

5 said first strap of said first hinge member and said third strap of said second hinge member remaining in a vertical position when said ladder is rotated from said first position to said second position such that said second and fourth straps respectively pivot on said first and second pins to align said second and fourth straps over said first and third straps to bring said ladder into vertical alignment in a plane that is adjacent said enclosure such that on movement of said ladder to said second location said ladder is hidden behind said enclosure.

10 13. The track arrangement as recited in claim 12 wherein said second strap and said fourth strap are each further characterized by a first stop that respectively engage said first strap and said third strap to maintain said second and fourth straps in a substantial horizontal position with respect to said first strap and said third strap when said ladder is in said first position.

15 14. The track arrangement as recited in claim 13 wherein said second strap and said fourth strap are further characterized by a button that extends therefrom and engages said deck when said ladder is in said first position to assist in maintaining said horizontal position.